

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/864,030

Examiner

Phirin Sam

Applicant(s)

SHIMADOI ET AL.

Art Unit

2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/23/2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Phirin Sam

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1-5, prior arts of record do not disclose a method of recognizing offices of a ring network having first and second network connecting offices for connecting ring networks together and for dropping a signal from a terminal office, comprising a combination of the steps:

- (1) executing a procedure, which is for creating squelch tables of working and protection channels based upon the channel setting information, between a first node, which has been recognized as being the first network connecting office or the terminal office, and other nodes;
- (2) identifying a second node, which is the second network connecting office, at the first node by the procedure for creating a squelch table of the protection channel;
- (3) sending office identification information, upon embedding this information in the squelch table of the protection channel, from the first node to the second node.

Regarding claims 6-9, the prior arts of record do not disclose a method of recognizing offices of a ring network having first and second network connecting offices for connecting ring networks together and for dropping a signals from a terminal office, comprising the steps of:

- (1) executing a procedure, which is for creating squelch tables of working and protection channels based upon the channel setting information, between a first node, which has been recognized as being the first network connecting office and other nodes;

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- (2) identifying a second node, which is the second network connecting office, at the first node by the procedure for creating a squelch table of the protection channel;
- (3) sending office identification information, upon embedding this information in the squelch table of the protection channel, from the first node to the second node.

Regarding claims 10-13, the prior arts of record do not disclose a method of recognizing offices of a ring network having first and second network connecting offices for connecting ring networks together and for dropping a signals from a terminal office, comprising the steps of:

recognizing at each node of the ring network, based upon channel setting information, whether the node is he terminal office of an arrangement in which the terminal office exists intermediate the first and second network connecting offices;

- (1) executing a procedure, which is for creating squelch tables of working and protection channels based upon the channel setting information between a first node, which has been recognized as being the terminal office, and other nodes;
- (2) identifying a second node, which is the second network connecting office, at the first node by the procedure for creating a squelch table of the protection channel;
- (3) sending office identification information, upon embedding this information in the squelch table of the protection channel, from the first node to the second node; and

Conclusion

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phirin Sam whose telephone number is (571) 272-3082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W Olms can be reached on (571) 272 - 3079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-3082.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 1, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phirin Sam', written over a horizontal line.

Phirin Sam
Patent Primary Examiner